Q: How does the RPC plan to use the housing inventory?

A: Housing is one of our biggest regional priorities right now, and MARC is committed to working on solutions.

We intend to use the inventory by engaging our towns and the general public about it to inform the effort and to get buy-in. Encouraging regulatory reform to eliminate unnecessary barriers for properties in the inventory would make sense. We encourage local housing committees to be established to help further housing solutions, including trying to promote housing projects at locations identified in the inventory.

We’re hoping we will be able to house a housing navigator position at MARC in the future, and that role may help to implement this effort.

We would also work with our board, Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT), and Springfield Regional Development Corporation to conduct outreach and market available properties. The inventory would help give WWHT and other developers some options to consider for future projects.

Q: Does MARC have readily accessible data on water district service lines and water district service capacity? If so, what format is this data in?

MARC has GIS shapefiles, file geodatabases, and CAD files for water and sewer lines. Much of the data is old, in draft form, and hasn’t recently been vetted by our towns. There haven’t been many substantial expansions of systems in the intervening years, but there have been replacement/upgrade projects.

Q: Does MARC have readily accessible data on wastewater district service capacity? If so, what format is this data in?

No. We can direct you to our towns' individual town plan utilities & facilities chapters where sewer system capacity is often listed. Currently permitted daily flow limits can usually be found here: https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IWIS/ReportViewer2.aspx?Report=WWActiveNPDESPermits&ViewParms=False